

NC WORKS PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

**ReCONNECT
ReENGAGE
ReIGNITE**

Solomon McAuley, Centralina WDB NextGen Specialist

Thursday October 14, 2022

1:30pm-2:30pm



Solomon McAuley has served as the NextGen specialist for the Centralina Workforce Development Board for the last eight years. He is a native of Broadway, NC and has over 27 years of experience working with the youth population. He has been devoted to impacting the lives of youth. McAuley, has a bachelor's degree in social work from Livingstone college, Salisbury, NC. Solomon spent a lot of his early professional development in the Sanford, NC area where he has held positions as case manager, middle school director (Boys & Girls Club), minority male mentoring coordinator, outreach coordinator, and afterschool programs.

Solomon got his first opportunity as a presenter at a state conference in 2018 at the 2018 NCWorks Partnership Conference in Greensboro, NC.

McAuley has been speaking to youth groups, youth professionals, and other groups since 2008 and his message has reached nearly 100,000 individuals.

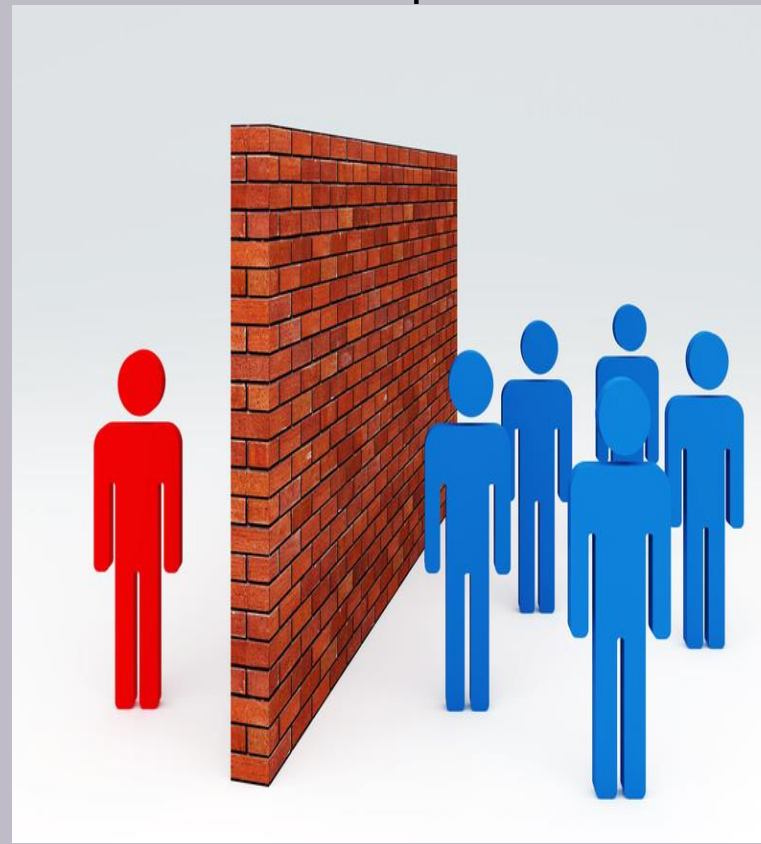
Solomon is the author of the book entitled ***The 6 E's to Successful Youth Engagement***. Solomon is very passionate about the youth population and looks forward attempting to encourage others that are in the career of influencing youth and young adults.



- What is a barrier?
- Steven Claunch Story
- Self Reflection Exercise: Write down 2 of your own barriers
- What We Know
- The Bottom Line
- Barriers should not lessen your expectations of a customer

WHAT IS A "BARRIER"

Something (such as a fence or **natural obstacle**) that **prevents or blocks movement from one place to another**. A law, rule, problem, etc., that makes something difficult or impossible.



STEVEN CLAUNCH



**"EVERYONE has obstacles to overcome
some are visible like mine. Some are less
visible" Steven Claunch**

GROUP ENGAGEMENT

SELF REFLECTION

Write down two things
that “you” consider a
barrier for yourself.

How have these
barriers influenced how
you view yourself?

Have these barriers
affected your productivity
and your daily routine? How
have you coped with them?

WHAT WE KNOW

COMMON BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

Criminal History Disability (both physical and intellectual) Drug and alcohol addiction Homelessness Childcare needs

Long-term welfare dependence Lack of marketable skills

Poor job search/interview skills Lack of basic computer skills
Children with chronic health conditions No reliable transportation
Background of poverty

Transition from military to civilian workforce

Poor work history, including long gaps in employment

Limited English proficiency

No high school diploma, GED (General Educational Development certificate) or HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma)

Illiteracy

Age

Poor social skills Mental illness

Employer bias related to these conditions

RESULT SAY

**THIS IS A CASE OF MISTAKEN
IDENTITY**

makeameme.org

The bottom line is...

OFTEN, WE IDENTIFY PEOPLE BY
THEIR BARRIER(S), AND IT
ELIMINATES GETTING TO KNOW
THEIR TRUE LEADERSHIP AND
FOLLOWSHIP ABILITIES.



Four individuals that needed four different things were able to overcome “THEIR BARRIERS” with the help and encouragement of the others. Heart, direction, brains, and courage are the things ALL of us need in order to help ourselves and each other overcome our barriers in life.



**THE RIGHT ATTITUDE CAN TRANSFORM A
BARRIER INTO A BLESSING, AN OBSTACLE INTO
AN OPPORTUNITY OR A STUMBLING BLOCK INTO
A STEPPINGSTONE.**

~US SENATOR CORY BOOKER~





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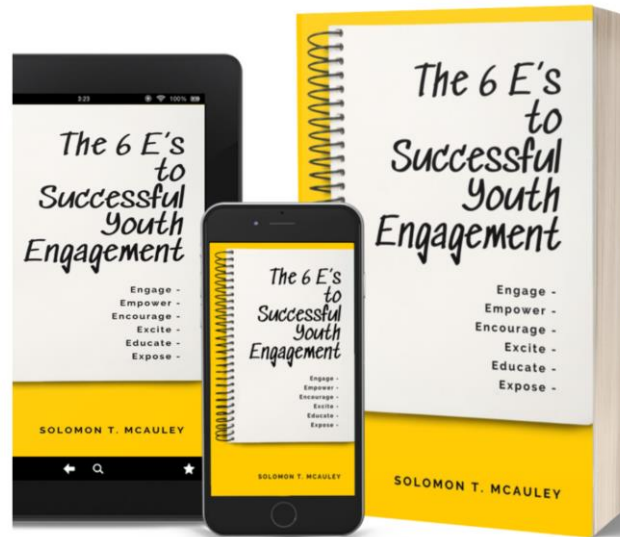
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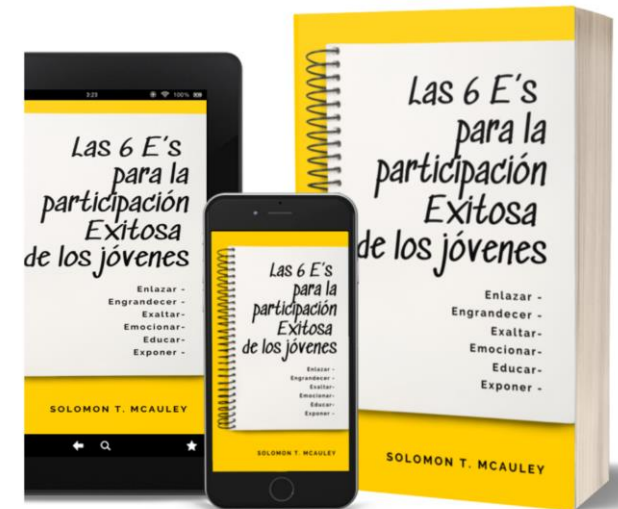
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The 6 E's to Successful Youth Engagement



Las 6 E's para la participación Exitosa de los jóvenes





THANK YOU

ENJOY THE REST OF THE CONFERENCE!!